THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) There is no system of allotment of fixed kilometers to any tank truck for LPG transportation in Northern India including at Sawai Madhopur bottling plant.

(b) and (c) The tank trucks (TTs) deployed at lower rate are given more kilometers. At present, TTs attached with Sawai Madhopur plant are working at basic transportation rate and are not considered as low rate TTs.

Bottling Plants in Rajasthan

†3754. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the capacity of the Sawai Madhopur Bottling Plant alongwith the amount spent on its installation;

(b) whether it is being fully utilised, if not, the percentage of capacity being utilised and the steps being taken by Government for its complete utilisation;

(c) the names of the places in Rajasthan where new bottling Plants were started during the last three years;

(d) whether due to the security reasons the distance from Pak border was kept in view while selecting these places; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) The rated capacity of Sawai Madhopur Bottling Plant is 44 Thousand Metric Ton Per Annum (TMTPA) and a total amount of Rs. 17.46 crore was spent on the construction of the plant.

(b) The capacity of the plant is being fully utilized.

(c) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies have commissioned

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

4 bottling plants, 2 at Ajmer, and 1 each at Bikaner and Jaipur during the last three years in the State of Rajasthan.

(d) and (e) Due consideration for security is kept in view while setting up the bottling plants.

Expansion of Panipat Refinery

3755. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Panipat refinery expansion work was to take place in the year 1999;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay;

(c) whether it is also a fact that IOC had entered into an agreement with the Japanese company Marubeni for setting upto 350 MW power generation plant alongside the refinery; if so, the reasons for delay; and

(d) by when this project will start functioning and produce the desired power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The Panipat refinery expansion project was approved by the Board of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) in August, 1999.

Subsequently, the Haryana Government imposed Haryana Local Area Development Tax (HLADT) with effect from 5.5.2000 on various goods including crude oil entering Haryana State. The matter for exemption of HLADT and grant of sales tax incentives was taken up with Haryana Government by IOCL. The matter has since been resolved and a gazette notification in this regard has been published on 10.4.2002.

(c) Yes, Sir. The main reason for the delay of the project is its being linked to the refinery expansion project.